(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of the curators of world museums to Indian museums

*237. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some senior curators of some of the well known museums of the world visited Indian museums recently;

(b) if so, what is their impression on conditions of Indian museums, method of their upkeep, manner of display of art objects etc; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government on their observations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impression as reported appears to indicate that the conditions are pitiable, museums are in shambles, lack air-conditioning and display is unsatisfactory.

(c) The observations expressed about museums in India are highly exaggerated.

India's initiative for long term settlement of Afghanistan problem

*238. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any initiative with other countries for a long term settlement of the Afghanistan problem; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government have been in touch with all concerned including all sections of Afghan opinion. Government have consistently called for strict implementation of the Geneva accords by all signatories as an essential step in seeking a political solution based on existing realities and ensuring the sovereignty, integrity, non-aligned status and independence of Afghanistan.

Common core for development of a National curricular framework for school stage

*239. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 234 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training had developed a National Curricular Framework for School stage which contains a common core having the content essential to nurture national identity;

(b) if so, what are these components of the common core and also the curriculum guidelines; and

(c) whether the States have been urged to use NCERT's curriculum guidelines, syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education; if so, what has been the response till date thereto state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Common core for development of a National curricular framework for school stage

The National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986 envisages a National system of education based on a national curricular framework which contains a common core alongwith other components that are flexible.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed national curricular framework for school stage and in pursuance of such a framework it has developed curriculum guidelines, syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education. These have been made available to all the States/UTs to enable them to use these materials and revise their syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education accordingly.

The common core components of the curriculum for elementary and secondary stages of education include History of India's Freedom Movement; Constitutional obligations; Content essential to nurture national identity; India's common cultural heritage; egalitarianism, democracy, secularism, equality of the sexes; protection of environment; removal of social barriers; observance of small family norms; and inculcation of scientific temper.

The curricular framework includes, in addition to the common core components mentioned above, the following basic features:—

(i) Emphasis on development of human resources for realisation of national goals of development.

(ii) A broad-based general education to all learners at elementary and secondary stages of education.

(iii) A common scheme of studies for elementary and secondary stages of education.

(iv) Emphasis on defining Minimum Learning Outcome for each stage of school education.

(v) Provision for flexibility in terms of selection of content/components and learning experiences.

(vi) Emphasis on adoption of learner-centred and activity-based approach to transaction of curriculum.

(vii) Recasting of the examination system and introduction of continuous and comprehensive evaluation.

(viii) Applicability of the curriculum to all learners irrespective of their modes/channels of learning.

Most of the States/UTs have initiated action towards renewal of the curriculum based on the national curricular framework, syllabi and text-books developed by NCERT. The revised instructional materials developed by the States/UTs are being introduced in the school systm in a phased manner.

Adoption of new syllabi by KVS

*240. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Vidyalaya Sengathan had adopted new syllabi prescribed by CBSE one year earlier than other affiliated secondary schools and there will be a separate examination for Kendriya Vidyalaya students in 1990;

(b) if so, whether all text books covering new syllabi have been brought out by NCERT; and

(c) what is the justification for such a hurry by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the new text books required for classes X and XII excepting the second parts of the following text books have been brought out by the NCERT.

Class X

(i) Science, Part-II

(ii) Mathematics, Part-II

Class XI

(i) Shashan Ke Ang, Part II

(ii) Bhugol Ke Sidhant, Part II

Class XII

(i) Mathematics, Part II